



Thrifty
Halloween
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Psychology of
Music
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The DrumBeat

TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT MEDIA SINCE 1927

OCTOBER 7 - OCTOBER 20, 2022

VOL. 91 - ISSUE 4

Tyler
Junior
College
Presents:

THE GREATEST SHOW ON TURF



MARVEL AT THE
NEVER-
ENDING
DRUMBEAT



BE DAZZLED BY THE
BELLES
OF THE BALL AS THEY SPIN
AND THEY SWAY IN THEIR
MAGICAL SHOES

SIDE SHOW
SPECTACULAR



PARADE AND BLOCK PARTY



Hear
ye!

New ringmaster
and ringmistress
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Hear
ye!

ARENA SHOWDOWN

the Warrior APACHES square off
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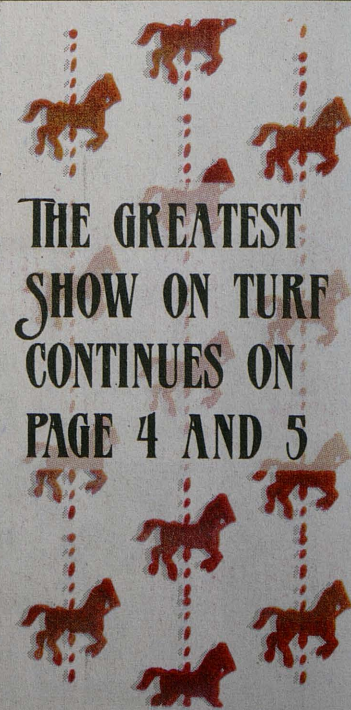
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THE
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CONTINUES ON
PAGE 4 AND 5



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Student Life
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Feature

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Questions or concerns? Email: news@thedrumbeat.com or call: 903-510-2299

Upcoming Events

Mental Health Day

All day 10/10
Rogers Student Center,
Apache Rooms

Student Senate

General Assembly
4 p.m. 10/11
Jenkins Hall, Room 1109

Campus Capers

7 p.m. 10/18
Rogers Palmer Performing
Arts Center

Zen Zone

All day 10/10 - 10/14
Vaughn Library

Loteria / Bingo Night

7 p.m. 10/11
Rogers Student Center,
Apache Rooms

Trunk or Treat / Baseball Game

5 p.m. 10/24
Mike Carter Fields

Rose Parade

8 a.m. 10/15
Downtown Tyler

Student Senate

General Assembly
4 p.m. 10/18
Jenkins Hall, Room 1109

For more information on
events, visit orgsync.tjc.edu.
Events are subject to change.



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PUZZLE

3

October 7 - October 20, 2022

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

THEME: Greek Mythology

ACROSS

1. Food-contaminating bacteria

6. *Meliae are nymphs of the ____ tree in Greek mythology

9. Chris Hemsworth's superhero role

13. Come by without warning (2 words)

14. Type of patrol

15. You are

16. "That is," Latin

17. *Half man, half goat

18. German surrealist Max

19. *One-eyed giants

21. *One part human, part divine

23. Eastward compass bearing

24. Gauche or Droite, in Paris

25. Bar bill

28. Convenience

30. "Stop right there!"

35. 15th of March

37. Loot

39. State indirectly

40. *Collected by the
- mythological ferryman at the River Styx

41. *Winged symbol of Zeus

43. Copied

44. Give or take

46. Indian Lilac tree

47. Close by

48. Inexperienced newcomer

50. Beaks

52. Genetic info carrier, acr.

53. Swamp stuff

55. Bo Peep's follower

57. *She opened an infamous box

61. *Poseidon's spear

65. Distant

66. Bit of sun

68. Tea variety

69. Font embellishment

70. Econ. indicator

71. Make improvements or corrections

72. Email folder

73. Hurry

74. Carpentry grooves

DOWN

1. "Beowulf," e.g.

2. Buffalo Bill's last name

3. Petroleum exporters' org.

4. Type of cotton thread

5. Chant

6. Pharaohs' vipers

7. Reggae's cousin

8. Indic vernacular

9. Actress Spelling

10. Like undecided jury

11. Approximately (2 words)

12. Retired, shortened

15. Saudi's southern neighbor

20. Peas, in Middle English

22. Adam's biblical partner

24. Chemical agent in a reaction

25. *Cronus or Oceanus

26. Hacienda brick

27. Under

29. *One of Zeus' disguises
31. Arabian Peninsula country

32. Stimulant

33. Gather

34. *Hercules' Lernaean foe

36. Lump in yarn

38. High school club

42. Hot coal

45. Alert (2 words)

49. Ever, to a poet

51. Used a credit card

54. Frustration, in a comic book

56. Swelling

57. School hallway permit

58. Sheltered, nautically

59. Female Norse deity

60. "I dare you!" (2 words)

61. Use a Smith Corona

62. Squeezed or ____ out

63. Faux pas

64. Koppel and Turner

67. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words)

For puzzle solutions, visit www.thedrumbeat.com.

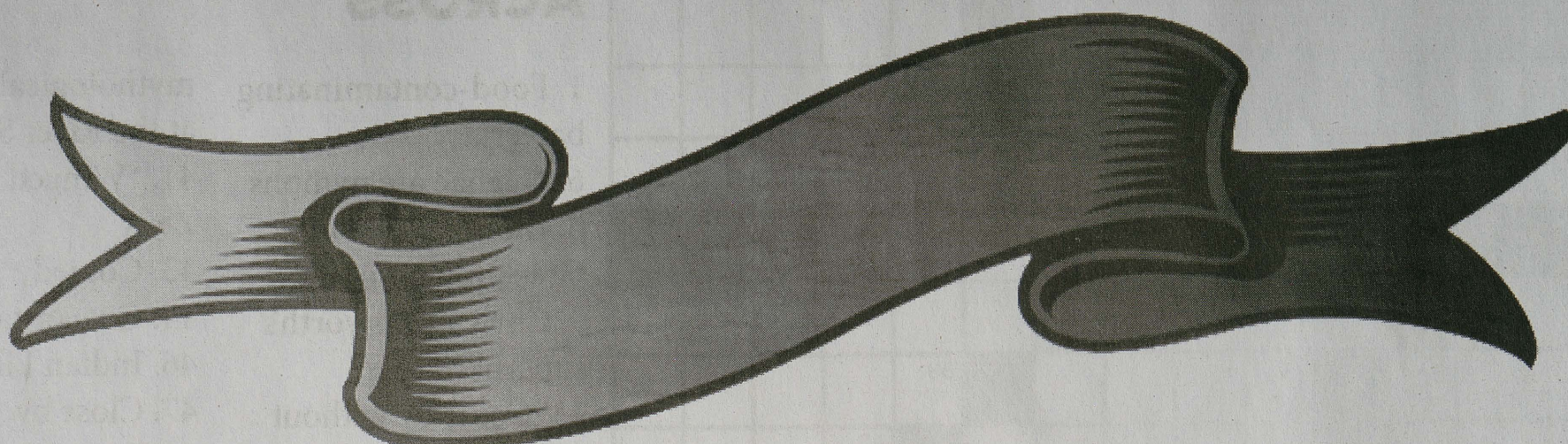
HOMECOMING

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HOMECOMING KICKS OFF



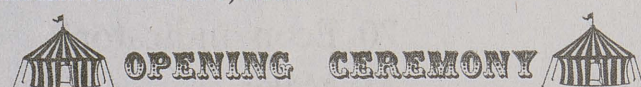
Events, activities for Tyler Junior College student organizations

By Brooklyn Gundling
Managing Editor

T Tyler Junior College Homecoming kicks off Oct. 17 with the traditional opening ceremony and beating of the drum kickoff. This year's "Greatest Show on Turf" theme references the 75-year anniversary of the Apache Band and Apache Belles.

"This year's theme is 'Greatest Show on Turf,'" said Director of Student Life Lauren Tyler. "Everything will be with a real carnival type feel."

Homecoming at TJC offers lots of opportunities for organizations to get involved in the events. Many events are traditional, though the theme does allow for repeat events to feel new. A short list of events is found below, though a full list can be found at TJC.edu.



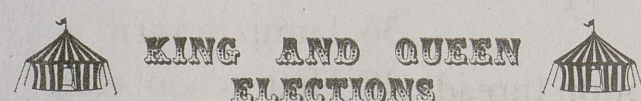
The Opening Ceremony is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Oct. 17. The ceremony will kick off the beating of the drum, one of the oldest traditions at TJC, according to TJC.edu.

"TJC students, faculty and staff volunteer for time slots to keep the drum beating 24 hours a day from Monday of Homecoming Week until kickoff of Saturday's football game," according to TJC.edu.

The drumbeat is not only a way to get students and staff involved in Homecoming, but also has a bit of superstition behind it.

According to TJC.edu, "if the drumbeat doesn't stop we will win the game!"

Whether that is true or not is unknown, but nevertheless the drumbeat has become a main event for Homecoming. Students and staff are encouraged to participate in the drumbeat. There are two slots available per hour for students to beat the drum and earn their organization points. Organizations will earn double points for late night hours, between midnight to 8 a.m., toward the Warrior Spirit Award that is given to the organization with the most points following all the events.



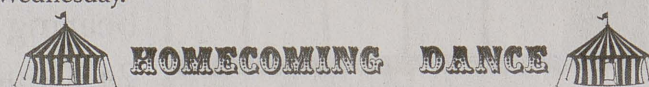
Each recognized organization can nominate a king, queen, or both to be elected by the student body. The Homecoming royalty have already been nominated, but any student can vote for their favorite King and Queen on orgsync.tjc.edu.

"Organizations can campaign the first three days [of Homecoming]," Tyler said. "There are tables set up on a first come, first-serve basis outside [the Student Life] office."

TJC's Homecoming King and Queen will be announced alongside the "Most Beautiful" and "Most Handsome" awards from the same nominees at the homecoming football game on Oct. 22. Elections open on tjc.edu/orgsync at 9 a.m. Oct. 17 and will close at 4 p.m. Oct. 19.

"There will be voting stations set up at Jenkins outside the dean's office or the student center by the welcome desk," Tyler said.

The two in-person election sites are available 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday. If unable to vote in-person, voting is available online at orgsync.tjc.edu until 4 p.m. Wednesday.



The Homecoming Dance will be held at 8 p.m. Oct. 19 in the Apache Rooms in the RSC. The dance will last for several hours and will give students a chance to hang out and dance alongside friends. Admission is free, but only TJC students are invited, so make sure to bring your student ID to show at the door. After the dance, Student Senate is hosting a late-night breakfast in the Apache Junction for the first 400 students. The Student Senate officers will prepare and serve the free food.



Every year organizations give canned goods to the student life office who then in donates those supplies to a charity or food bank in need. This year the donations will be given to the Student Resource Center in Pirtle Technology, Room 2014. The resource center is open for all TJC students and provides them with food, snacks, free printing, a computer lab and a closet where students can borrow interview clothes.

TJC provided organizations with a list of needed items, including:

- School Supplies
- Meat products (such as jerky, Vienna sausages, or single serve chicken or tuna packets)
- Canned meals or fruit (such as spaghetti, ravioli, peaches, pears, etc.)
- Granola bars
- Microwavable meals: Ramen cups (no flat packs), mac and cheese cups, oatmeal cups, soup cups or other individually portioned microwavable cups and popcorn
- Hygiene items (soap, toilet paper, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, feminine products, etc.)
- Laundry pods

The list of supplies was given by Phi Theta Kappa who run the resource center.

"While we appreciate all kinds of donations, these are specific things that they need," Tyler said.

The supply drive starts the Monday of Homecoming at 9 a.m. and will end Wednesday at 5 p.m. Supplies will be collected in the student life office in the RSC.



Both the men's and women's soccer teams will have two games the week of Homecoming. The men's soccer team will go against Coastal Bend College at noon on Oct. 19 at Pat Hartley Field. The women's team will play against Navarro College at 7 p.m. Oct. 19 at Pat Hartley Field. On the last day of Homecoming week, Oct. 22, both teams will face Trinity Valley Community College. The women's team will play at 5 p.m., and the men's team will play at 7 p.m.



The Homecoming parade will feature various organizations who will decorate floats and show off their Homecoming court nominees. The parade will take place at 6 p.m. Oct. 20 outside the Rogers Nursing and Health Sciences Center. It will end outside Pat Hartley Field where a block party will be set up with food, games and other activities to be enjoyed by TJC students, staff and their guests.

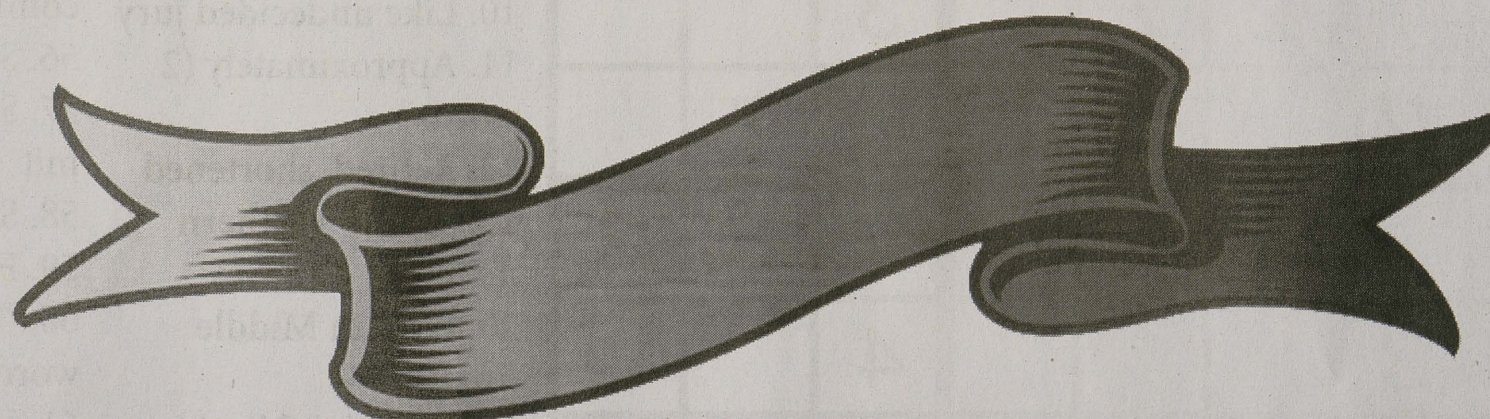
"It'll be like a big party," Tyler said. "A big block party for everyone."

The party will last until the pep rally at 9 p.m. While the majority will be hyping up the games to come, there are also special announcements and a surprise ending to the night. Tyler said, "make sure to stay for the big finale!"



Kickoff for the Homecoming game is at 3 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Christus Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium, but the pre-game will start at 2 p.m. at the stadium. Pre-game will include the announcement of "Most Beautiful" and "Most Handsome" award as well as the top five court nominees for King and Queen. The drum will continue beating until the official kickoff against Cisco College.

For more information about these events, and how to get involved, visit orgsync.tjc.edu or talk to your organization advisers.



HOMECOMING

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Drumbeat tradition continues for Apaches Oct. 17



Photo courtesy of Haley Farmer
Haley Farmer is an Apache Belle and Homecoming nominee. The Apache Belles was founded in 1927 and have traveled with the Apache Band around the world. According to tjc.edu, the Apache Belles and Band have performed at various halftime shows and military bases.

By Abigail Smith
Multimedia Journalist

The Homecoming Kickoff and Drumbeat Ceremony will start the "Greatest Show on Turf" theme at Tyler Junior College for Homecoming week. The event will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 17 on the front steps of the Rogers Student Center. The Homecoming nominees will be presented, and the traditional drumbeat will begin.

"It's the official start of Homecoming week; it's getting everyone excited about what's to come," said Lauren Tyler, director of student life. "The drumbeat alone is just a really cool opportunity for alumni, employees, administrators, students, to all come together for one cause."

TJC organizations had the opportunity to nominate two students to be a part of the TJC king and queen Homecoming ballot. The students who were chosen will be announced at the event.

"I was just going about my day when I got an email saying that I had been selected as the queen nominee. There were so many great options to choose from on the ballot, so I was honored that my fellow students chose to vote for me," said Haley Farmer, presidential honors Homecoming nominee. "Everyone in the Presidential Honors Program, have been so kind and welcoming to me during my time so far at TJC. I am ecstatic to have the opportunity to represent them during Homecoming week."

After the Homecoming nominees are presented, Dr. Juan E. Mejia, TJC president, will count down the official start of the drum. Then Phi Theta Kappa, last year's winner of the Warrior Spirit award will begin the beating of the drum. Students can sign up to be a part of the traditional drumbeat at the event.

"I participated in the drumbeat for one hour last fall, and it was so much fun! I think maybe this year I will try to go for one of the graveyard shifts," Farmer said.

Students can sign up for one-hour shifts on the TJC Homecoming website. The shifts will last until the Homecoming football game kickoff.

"Homecoming is very important to me because TJC has 96 years of history and legacy. TJC alumni are very supportive of the college and contribute greatly to the future of our school," Farmer said. "Homecoming is all about celebrating the union of the people who graduated



Photo by Abigail Smith
Director of Student Life, Lauren Tyler, helps in facilitating Homecoming and its events. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Apache Belles and Band, key components of TJC Homecoming.

before and the students who are here now, and I think that is so special."

Alumni have carried on the beating of the drum tradition since 1948. The tradition says if the drumbeat doesn't stop, then TJC will win the game.

The first 50 students to attend the event and sign up for the beating of the drum will receive free T-shirts. The celebration will end with refreshments and students will have the opportunity of being drawn by a caricature artist.

To vote for Homecoming nominees, the Office of Student Life will have voting booths located in Rogers and Jenkins Building. Students can also go to TJC orgsync Homecoming account.

For more information regarding Homecoming, visit orgsync.tjc.edu.

TJC 2022 HOMECOMING PARADE ROUTE



The Homecoming parade will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. The parade starts at the Rogers Nursing and Health Sciences Center and ends at Pat Hartley Field.

STUDENT LIFE

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thedrumbeat.com

Thrifting spookily cheap and easy Halloween costumes

By Asia Johnson
Editor-In-Chief

Elena Gilbert from "The Vampire Diaries"

Velma Dinkley from "Scooby Doo"

The temperatures are dropping, the days are getting shorter and the spooky season is just around the corner. You want to put your all into this year's costume but your pockets aren't on the same page. Lucky for you, here is a list of six Halloween costumes to thrift that can satisfy your costume standards...and your bank account.

Lydia Deetz from "Beetlejuice"

Daughter of Charles and Delia Deetz, Lydia is commonly referred to as a goth girl, always dressing in dark and distressed attire.

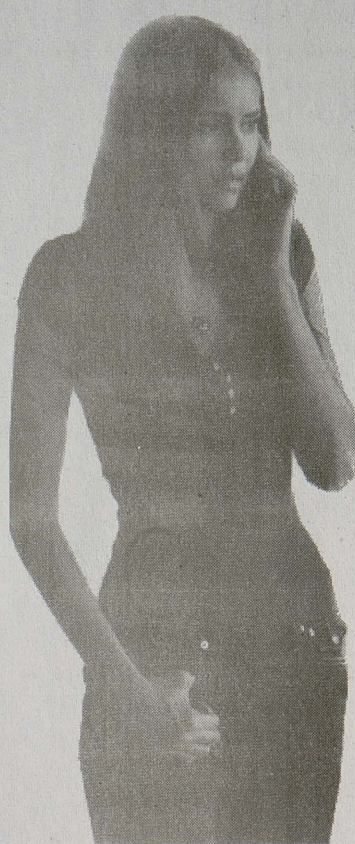
Music Major and thrifter Megan Wansley said, "I dressed as Lydia from Beetlejuice. I got a black sunhat and a black dress. I thrift most of my clothes because it's cheaper."

Thrifting allows creativity in your clothing, but for a reduced price compared to clothing at larger corporations. The main purpose of a costume is to wear it for at least one day, so why put so much money into it?

"Pros of thrifting are sustainability. I knew I would only wear the dress a few times, so I didn't want to waste money on a new dress," Wansley said.



Graphic courtesy of deviantart.com



Graphic courtesy of pinterest.com

"The Vampire Diaries" protagonist, Elena Gilbert, can be described as sporty, popular and smart. Gilbert wore "basic" clothing, typically sporting high top converse, jeans and any clothing that wasn't too bright.

Marlee Sorrells, a student at Hardin-Simmons University, said she thrifted costumes for both fictional characters Elena Gilbert and Velma Dinkley.

"I decided to thrift my costumes because I could save money and knew that I could find pieces that work really well for the characters," Sorrells said.



Graphic courtesy of warnerbros.fandom.com

She's smart, modest and unashamed to be herself, Velma Dinkley is one of the five members of Mystery Incorporated. Velma has short red hair and wears square-framed glasses. She always has on a bright orange turtleneck and a red skirt with knee-high orange socks and red shoes.

You're bound to find clothing at thrift stores that work well to recreate Velma's look. Not only is buying clothes for a reduced price a plus, some also enjoy the adventure of looking for those specific pieces of clothing.

"I really like thrifting because it's a sustainable way to shop. I also love the surprise of what you'll find and hunt for certain items of clothing," Sorrells said.

Waldo from "Where's Waldo"

Waldo may be hard to spot in puzzle books, but you won't be in this outfit. Waldo wears a red and white striped long-sleeved shirt, a pair of jeans, circle-framed glasses and a red and white beanie. All components of this outfit can be easily found at a local thrift store such as Clothes Mentor, Goodwill, Hangers of Hope or any other thrift stores in Tyler.

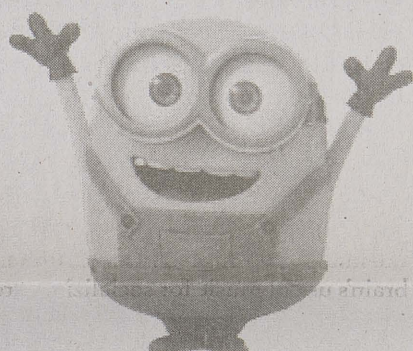


Graphic courtesy of giantbomb.com

Whether you are dressing up as a cheerleader, wizard or your favorite celebrity for the fifth year in a row, any thrift store will have the right clothing pieces to make a hauntingly perfect costume.

"It's nice to know that someone's once beloved item is now in my care instead of being thrown away," Wansley said.

A minion from "Despicable Me"



Graphic courtesy of poohadventures.fandom.com

They're short, yellow and pill-bodied creatures whose purpose is to obey the orders of the villain, Gru. With the simplicity and consistency of their style, thrifting a costume for these characters would be no task at all. A simple yellow shirt from Uptown Cheapskate and a pair of overalls from Goodwill and you're good to go. If you want to go the extra mile, pick up a pair of goggles from Walmart and the look is complete.

A classic ghost from "Casper"



Graphic courtesy of vectorportal.com

The ghost costume is a Halloween costume classic and is the easiest costume to create. Just buy a bed sheet from Walmart for around \$6, cut two holes for the eyes and the costume is ready for some spooky action.

New Center for Professional Excellence opens in Vaughn Library

Story and Graphic By
Leigh Meyers
Broadcast Director

The Center for Professional Excellence, a facility made with the idea of professional learning in mind, is now open on the second floor of Vaughn Library. The Tutoring Center has been moved to the first floor.

"Professional development in the past has not had a designated space at TJC where faculty and staff have a place to learn just like students do," Director of Professional Development, Katie Moses said. "So, the leadership here at TJC decided that it would be good to have a dedicated space for learning."

The facility is intended to help faculty and staff achieve personal and professional growth and is available for any individual employed at TJC.

"We offer training in five different categories," Moses said.

These include, college systems and processes, personal and professional development, teaching and learning, technology and leadership.

Workshops are available on a variety of subjects, including computer-based classes to help

faculty learn programs like Microsoft Word as well as book studies. A room has also been set up for recording, so faculty and staff may record videos for Canvas courses or put them on the TJC website.

"We hope that faculty and staff use the center to improve themselves, which carries onto improved customer service for the students [and] improved classroom experiences for our students," Moses said. "It all directly impacts the students we serve at TJC."

Not only is there a direct benefit for students, but faculty also have an opportunity to make their time at TJC easier and more accessible for an evolving learning landscape in terms of technological advancement.

"It sounds like it's going to be a pretty excellent thing," Professor of Physics, Douglas Parsons said. "It's always good to learn new tricks and be able to work with new pieces of equipment. Whether it's 3D printers, or CAD software, or graphics [and] design elements, teachers should be able to keep up with their students."

Sessions started in September, but due to construction, the official opening was set to be on Oct. 5.

"We hope that faculty and staff use the center to improve themselves, which carries onto improved customer service for the students [and] improved classroom experiences for our students. -Katie Moses, director of professional development"

The Center of Professional Excellence is now open for faculty and staff. The Tutoring Center has been relocated on the first floor of the Vaughn Library.

The Center for Professional Excellence is located on the second floor.

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Center for Professional Excellence

A professional learning space for TJC faculty and staff

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The Center for Professional Excellence is located on the second floor.

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thedrumbeat.com

Tackling the psychology within music

Story and Graphic By
Santiago Nunez
Entertainment Editor

Art is perceived in many ways by different people, despite being the same work. This is showcased through people's experience while listening to music. It may appear trivial at first glance, but music has been the subject of many studies and theories for hundreds of years. The DrumBeat asked TJC students how music has impacted their lives, to complement the scientific research aiming to explain the human interest in music.

Background

A 2013 study conducted by the United States National Library of Medicine, operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, serving as the world's largest biomedical library, used a survey audience of 834 people to rate the importance of 129 functions of music on a scale of 0 (do not agree) to 6 (fully agree). Functions were defined by the NIH as previous theories made about a person's use of music and non-redundant responses given by participants in prior studies. These 129 functions were grouped into three categories: self-awareness, social relatedness, and mood and arousal regulation. By taking the average rating of the functions grouped under each category, arousal and mood regulation (3.78) was rated to be the most important dimension of listening to music, followed by self-awareness (3.59) and social relatedness (2.01).

Category One: Arousal and mood regulation

Arousal and mood regulation "includes statements about the use of music as background entertainment and diversion," and "as a means to get into a positive mood and regulate one's physiological arousal," according to the parameters set by the NIH in the study. Some students at TJC also say music can have a direct effect on their mood. "When I'm down, I like to listen to Christian music to give me an upbeat. I like country music because I like to dance," said Kathryn Burkham, a sophomore general studies student.

The NIH used previous studies to add to their own. They listed a 2009 study by Emery Schubert, a professor of music and psychology at The University of New South Wales Sydney, in which he argued "the fundamental function of music is its potential to produce pleasure in the listener (and in the performer, as well). All other functions may be considered subordinate to music's pleasure-producing

capacity." This can be viewed as the aspect of arousal and mood regulation in the NIH study.

"It's really helped relax and put my mind in like a safe place to where I can always like focus on one thing or just let go of everything and just have a fun time," said Andru Smith, a sophomore game development major.

Many people use music to better control their emotions with the pleasure they get from the entertainment music provides, which Schubert said is the most important part of the listening process. Burkham and Smith use music in the way Schubert outlines. They are both seeking pleasure from the entertainment music provides to distract themselves and get in a better state of mind.

Category Two: Self-awareness

Self-awareness "includes statements about self-related thoughts, emotions and sentiments, absorption, escapism, solace, and meaning," according to the parameters set by the NIH in the study. A TJC student had similar feelings when describing her experiences with music.

"Music has always been an escape for me. My mind is always constantly going so it helps block it out, but also helps me realize the emotions that I'm feeling and just basically, I feel more in tune with myself whenever I'm listening to music because I feel like other people understand what I'm going through," said Riley Crawford, a sophomore kinesiology major.

This encapsulates every single quality that makes up self-awareness as defined by the study. The "self-related thoughts" and "emotions and sentiments" aspects are present in Crawford admitting to using music to better understand her emotions and feel more in tune with herself. "Escapism" and "absorption" are present with her use of music as an escape from reality and to stop her mind from over-analyzing things. "Solace" is present since she said she feels as if someone understands her situation when she listens to music. The only aspect not explicitly mentioned is meaning, but an inference can be made that music has a significant role in her life.

The NIH quoted the 1996 book, "Performing Rites: On the Value of Popular Music" by Simon Frith, a socio-musicologist and Tovey Chair of Music at University of Edinburgh. On page 276, Frith said, "We all hear the music we like as something special, as something that defies the mundane, takes us 'out of ourselves,' puts us somewhere else." This can be viewed as a broad view of the self-awareness aspect identified in the NIH study. Frith said

music takes our mind to a place outside of the mundane where we can reflect on our lives. Crawford is exhibiting the process Smith identified in the ways she uses music.

Category Three: Social relatedness

Social relatedness "includes statements about social bonding and affiliation" and "using music to feel close to their friends, to express their identity and values to others, and to gather information about their social environment," according to the parameters set by the NIH in the study. A TJC student had a statement parallel to this definition.

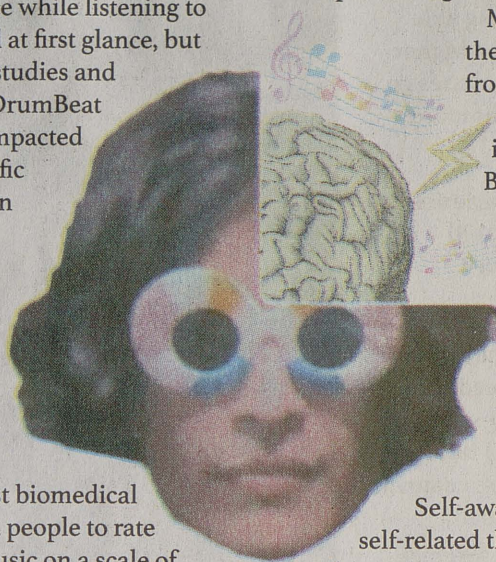
"I primarily listen to country music, and I love it so much because I think a good country song tells a story, and kind of offers advice on how to live your life, so I think it's really rubbed off a lot of inspiration on me on how I can live my life in a way that's pleasing to me and hopefully to others and to God," said Tyler Thompson, a sophomore business major.

This statement aligns with the parameters of social relatedness due to Thompson's sentiments of social bonding along with identity and values. Thompson describes how he believes music can help him express his values and identity to others. The lessons he's learned from music help him in being a pleasing person.

The NIH cites an article published in the Nordic Journal of Music Therapy titled "The Psychological Functions of Music in Adolescence" by Suvi Laiho, a doctoral student of music education at the University of Jyväskylä. The article presents a theoretical model of functions of music in adolescence that is "divided into four categories: interpersonal relationships, identity, agency, and emotional field, which represent different areas of psychological functions that can be supported by engaging in music. Through promoting the satisfaction of these psychological aims music contributes substantially to adolescent development and mental health." The four categories presented can be placed under social relatedness and within Thompson's statement. The adolescent nature of Thompson means these four categories are still applicable and are important to the nature in which he uses music.

Conclusion

The research and engagement with TJC students echo the findings in this NIH study. Human understanding of the brain's use of music for socializing, growth, self-fulfillment, emotional stability and comfort is fundamentally linked to everyday life. NIH ends their study with "we found that people appear to listen to music for three major reasons, two of which are substantially more important than the third: music offers a valued companion, helps provide a comfortable level of activation and a positive mood, whereas its social importance may have been overvalued."



Fall in love with five new autumn albums

Story and Graphics By
Santiago Nunez
Entertainment Editor

There is no worse feeling than putting your headphones on and opening a streaming service to listen to music, but having no idea what to listen to. Fear not, for I am always here to give suggestions relating to anything involving music. Several music releases can remedy the problem at hand. It is time for another round-up of five of my favorite albums released since the first issue of The DrumBeat.

"What's Wrong" by Elliott Fullam

This is easily one of the better releases we have seen this year as it is the debut album of 17-year-old Elliott Fullam — incredibly impressive to say the least. This slow core record takes great influence from Fullam's namesake, Elliott Smith, along with bands like Duster, LSD and the Search for God. The bleak lyrics coupled with the eerie and bare instrumentation create a morose and almost dilapidated environment where mental degradation meets the youth of a teenage boy. The perspective is not the most complex or developed, but maybe it's for the better as the album thrives and builds on the simplicity of description. The quiet and slow nature of the album makes this an experience similar to watching rain slide down a window. A must-listen release that excites me for the future of Fullam.



"PRE PLEASURE" by Julia Jacklin

I am a sucker for a good singer-songwriter album, and Julia Jacklin's third studio album is just that. This album will not revolutionize the indie scene or break new ground, but the straightforward and effortless nature of the 37-minute journey this album takes you on lets the relatability of the lyrics do the bulk of the work. The album is an ode to the past. Jacklin takes a somber position reflecting over the time that has gone by as she delivers some of her most powerful vocal work. She takes a departure from the depressive ballads she usually creates and instead opts for more wispy and intimate confrontations of love and what it can do to a person while she explores different instrumentation.

"I Love You Jennifer B" by Jockstrap

Another debut album, Jockstrap has built on the work of their three EPs and fully fleshed it out into what I can confidently say is one of, if not the best, produced albums of the year. To peg this down into the genre of art-pop is a disservice to the record. The album contains songs



that could play in an underground rave and songs fitting for an autumn walk through a dewy forest. The controlled chaos on this record creates an environment where your brain is still

processing the last wave of instrumentation while being thrown into the next. The confident vocal work of Georgia Ellery is brilliant because she always finds a way to adapt to the new rhythm Taylor Skye's production throws at her with powerful and layered vocals. You will not find any other albums that compare to the production on "I Love You Jennifer B" this year.

"God Save The Animals" by Alex G

One of the most consistent artists of the last decade returns for the second time this year with another wonderful album. Alex G's ninth studio album in 12 years feels just as fresh and concise as the previous eight. The album is a beautiful mixture of psychedelic rock and indie folk. The atmosphere is one full of warmth and charm that almost cradles the listener with tightly bound arms. The lyrics, as with all Alex G projects, are personal, like a conversation with a stranger at a coffee shop. Alex G's repertoire of guitars and whispery vocals on this record create a unique sound when combined with



all the electronic elements present, but strangely it works quite well. The album fires off your dopamine only to quell you back down with serotonin like an oil fire under a half open jar.

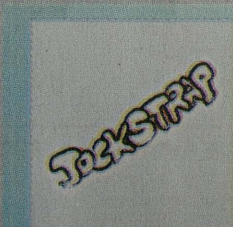
"The Forever Story" by JID



We had not seen much from JID in terms of solo

studio albums since his 2018 release "DiCaprio 2," but this new album has been worth the wait. JID has some sensational flows to couple with poignant lyricism showing how much of a leap he has taken since we last saw a full project from him. We get some incredible neo-soul sampling to go with the punchy and lively beats that contrast the production on some of the more emotionally vulnerable tracks where we see JID express himself in a revealing way. I find it easy to say this is one of the better conscious hip-hop records not just of the year, but in general. The Atlanta native has released a classic, which I believe solidifies his status within the contemporary hip-hop community.

In order of appearance from left to right, images courtesy of Little Punk People, IMDb, Polyvinyl Record Co., Consequence, Rough Trade Records, NME, Domino Recording Company, GO, Interscope and Stereogum.



A sit down with Kara Wofford, TJC's new freshman president

By Garrett Snyder
Multimedia Journalist

Student Senate's freshman election came to a close on Sept. 21, electing Kara Wofford as TJC's new freshman president. In high school, Wofford was a member of the 4H student leadership organization, holding the positions of president and vice president during her high school years and receiving a Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship in May 2022. The DrumBeat sat down with Wofford for an interview to discuss her motivations and plans for the future.

Q: What got you interested in the Student Senate in the first place?

A: I wanted to make my own impact on the campus and Lauren Tyler and Aaron [Hernandez] had mentioned how good I would have been as the freshman president. And so I was like, 'Oh, that sounds really interesting.' And I decided to run for it because I wanted to be an advocate for the campus and have my own voice.

Q: What are your plans now that you're in office?

A: I wanted to be an advocate for the campus, and so I wanted to be plugged in to where, if all my friends who were freshmen had ideas for campus improvement, they could come to me about that and I can advocate it to the Senate. And so just whatever role that they need me to fill, I plan to fill for them.

Q: What does the position mean to you?

A: It means a lot. I was kind of nervous running for it because I came to TJC and I was like, I'm just gonna get my classes. I'm not gonna be involved. And then I realized how homey the community actually is on the Tyler campus. It means that I get to represent the freshmen body and be an advocate for them, and I'm very honored that I was chosen to be the freshman president.

Q: Do you plan on running for sophomore president next year?

A: Depending on how this year goes, I really am thinking about it because so far I love the Senate. I love the environment. I love being able to plug in and be involved, like kind of to a higher standard. And so depending on how my classes go, I probably will be looking to run for sophomore executive president.

Q: How well do you think your experience with the high school student council will transfer to the college's Student Senate?

A: Well, along with student council, I did a lot of 4H, as well. And so I was the 4H president and vice president. I've known parliamentary procedure pretty much my whole life, and so that ties in to being able to advocate meetings. And so I have a lot of experience on being a representative of a council and organization. That past experience really helped me for my position to be able to campaign and to be elected as freshman senate president.

Q: What are some issues around campus you care strongly about?

A: I believe that lighting is very important. Having more study rooms because you go to the library and it's really loud and I feel like you don't have a private study area really anywhere. For proctored exams with the new program they have, there's so many regulations and I want to be an advocate to help there be rooms where you can go specifically to take the proctored exams where they have to have the camera in the video, because we don't have any facilities that will be able to help you with that. Those are some of the things that I want to help advocate for.

Q: Is there anything you would like to say to the student body?



Photo courtesy of Kara Wofford
After winning the election on Sept. 21, Wofford was sworn into office on Sept. 27, she plans on advocating for freshmen students.

A: I would just like to say thank y'all for electing me to be the freshman student president, and I hope that I will do y'all proud and go Apaches!

'Savoring the Seasons': An interview with best-selling author Traci Borum

By Asia Johnson
Editor-In-Chief

A best-selling author is among us at Tyler Junior College. Her name is Traci Borum, an English professor who teaches composition I and II, as well as creative writing. Borum shares her love for writing, what led her to the field of teaching and words of encouragement to the audience to follow their dreams.

Q: What led you to become a teacher?

A: That's a good question that requires some thought. I have loved English, and writing and reading ever since I was just a child. I have a lot of teachers in my family. In fact I counted one time. On my mother's side, there are 11 teachers, so maybe it's in the genes, I don't know. But I think when I was getting my bachelor's, and I was taking all the literature classes, I just thought, I want to stay here. I want to stay, you know, kind of surrounded by literature and teaching just seemed like the right choice.

Q: How many books have you published?

A: Seven, and I'm working on one.

Q: Are your books a certain theme or genre? Or are they different?

A: Technically, they're of the genre women's fiction, and there are two series. So, one is set in England, and one is set in Texas. Women's fiction is just about, like, relationships. So it can be romantic, or it can be like, sisters, or you know, family or



Photo by Asia Johnson
Traci Borum is the author of best selling women's fiction books such as "Seeking the Star," "Finding the Rainbow" and "Discovering the Nightingale."

friends. And I like that dynamic. Because each book to me feels different and I get to explore different, you know, relationships.

Q: What's your favorite book that you've written?

A: I think it's, it's the one called, "Savoring the Seasons." It's like the fourth book in the British series. It's probably because there's a lot of myself in each character, but that one, particularly for some reason, seems really close to me. Maybe that's why it was hard to

write. Because I had to kind of maybe look inward even more. Yeah, but maybe that's my

Q: What got you interested in writing?

A: I think reading did. You know, both my parents, my mother was a teacher, and taught me how to read, and that love of reading. There came a moment where I was reading, and I thought, you know, somebody wrote these words. And there's a point where you put that together. And I just thought, wouldn't that be neat to do? You know, I just thought that that would be a wonderful thing to try. I didn't know if I could do it. And I have to say, my very first novel, nobody will ever see it. It won't see the light of day. It was terrible, because I had to figure out how to do it. But after that, I just fell in love with writing.

Q: What's the inspiration behind your books?

A: I would say the place, probably for the British series. I love England. Well, I went there one time when I was 17 years old with my grandmother, and just fell in love with the culture, the music, the history, you know, the buildings are so old and lovely. And the accents. But probably that I would think.

Q: Would you ever stop teaching to fully pursue your writing?

A: I would say I love both professions equally. I'm very lucky to be able to do both. So I know that's not an answer to your question, but I'm happy doing both and being able to.

Q: Anything else you want to add?

A: Yeah, I would just say that I think it's important, even as an adult to just follow your dreams. Like, you know, my writing really is still just, it's a dream. It's more of a hobby, of course, than my teaching, but it's something I love. And I think as kids, we dream big. And then we get to be adults, and our reality just crowds it out. It's not easy. You know, people take their summers off. Well, I work hard. I wrote 250 pages this last summer. Nobody told me to you know, but I love it. But yeah, I think too many people just drop them. You know? So that's what I would say.

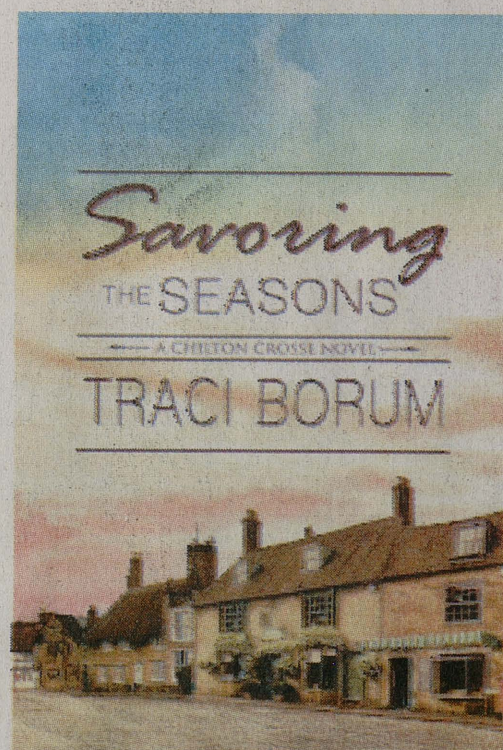


Photo courtesy of Traci Borum
"Savoring the Seasons" is the latest book by TJC professor and author Traci Borum. The book has themes of overcoming one's own insecurity to find happiness.

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